

HS011275451B2

# (12) United States Patent Wang

## (10) Patent No.: US 11,275,451 B2

### (45) **Date of Patent:** Mar. 15, 2022

#### (54) **DEPLOYABLE KEY MOUSE**

(71) Applicant: Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA (US)

(72) Inventor: Paul X. Wang, Cupertino, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 16/795,270

(22) Filed: Feb. 19, 2020

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2021/0255711 A1 Aug. 19, 2021

(51) **Int. Cl. G06F** 3/02 (2006.01)

(52) U.S. Cl. CPC ....... *G06F 3/0216* (2013.01); *G06F 3/0219* (2013.01)

#### (56) References Cited

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,072,840 A *	2/1978	Daigle H01H 9/08
		200/296
2004/0190239 A1*	9/2004	Weng G06F 1/1616
2000/0205722 A1*	12/2000	361/679.2 Stenbroten G06F 3/0219
2009/0293/33 A1	12/2009	345/168
2010/0245250 A1*	9/2010	Linegar G06F 3/0216
		345/168
2020/0218362 A1*	7/2020	Madsen G06F 3/0202

\* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Sahlu Okebato

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Dorsey & Whitney LLP

(57) ABSTRACT

A computer input device can include a housing, a set of key switch mechanisms positioned in the housing, and a removable key structure that is operable between a first configuration positioned in the housing and a second configuration detached from the housing. The removable key can have a position sensor, wherein in the first configuration, the removable key structure is operable to provide a key-based typing input, and, in the second configuration, the removable key structure is operable as a computer pointing device using the position sensor. The removable key structure can therefore allow comfortable, portable, and precise pointer input for a computer input system.

#### 21 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets

